

Please amend Claims 1, 3, 5-9, 11-16, and 18, and add new Claim 19 to read as follows. A marked-up copy of the amended claims, showing the changes made thereto, is attached.

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1. (Amended) A control method of a home office system which includes user terminal devices and a display device connected to said user terminal devices, said method comprising:

a virtual spaces providing step, of providing virtual spaces for users of said user terminal devices;

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a view providing step, of providing a different view for each of the virtual spaces on said display device;

a monitoring step, of monitoring the user while said user is in a certain virtual space; and

a control step, of automatically changing the display of said certain virtual space to a display of a virtual space for rest on the basis of the result in said monitoring step, so that said user in said changed virtual space for rest can communicate with other users existing in said common virtual space for rest.

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3. (Amended) A computer-readable storage medium for storing a program of a home office system which includes user terminal devices and a display device connected to said user terminal devices, said program comprising:

code for a virtual spaces providing step, of providing virtual spaces for

users of said user terminal devices;

code for a view providing step, of providing a different view for each of the virtual spaces on said display device;

code for a monitoring step, of monitoring the user while said user is in a certain virtual space; and

code for a control step, of automatically changing the display of said certain virtual space to a display of a virtual space for rest on the basis of the result in said monitoring step, so that said user in said changed virtual space for rest can communicate with other users existing in said common virtual space for rest.

5. (Amended) A control apparatus of a virtual system which has plural user terminal devices and a host server device connected to said plural user terminal devices through a communication network and creates virtual spaces, comprising:

a virtual space providing unit arranged to provide the virtual spaces for users of said user terminal devices;

a view providing unit arranged to provide a different view for each of the virtual spaces on a display device of said host server device;

a monitoring unit arranged to monitor the user while said user is in a certain virtual space; and

a control unit arranged to automatically change the display of said certain virtual space to the display of another virtual space on the basis of the monitored result by said monitoring unit, so that said user moves on the virtual spaces.

6. (Amended) An apparatus according to Claim 5, further comprising an imaging unit arranged to image the user, wherein said monitoring unit monitors the state of the user on the basis of an image of the user outputted from said imaging unit.

7. (Amended) An apparatus according to Claim 6, wherein said monitoring unit monitors a face direction of the user and said control unit moves the user to another virtual space in a case where the user looks toward said user terminal device with a predetermined number of times or for a predetermined time.

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8. (Amended) An apparatus according to Claim 6, wherein said monitoring unit monitors motion of the user and said control unit moves the user to another virtual space in a case where the motion of the user is in a predetermined condition for a period longer than a previously designated time.

9. (Amended) An apparatus according to Claim 5, further comprising an imaging unit arranged to image the user, wherein said imaging unit includes a voice sound information obtaining unit for obtaining voice sound information, said monitoring unit monitors emotion of the user on the basis of the voice sound information obtained by said voice sound information obtaining unit and said control unit moves the user to another virtual space in case of judging that the user is in a great stress condition in accordance with the recognition result obtained by said monitoring unit.

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11. (Amended) An apparatus according to Claim 5, wherein said user terminal device has a transmission unit for transmitting information of the user to said host server device and said monitoring unit provided in said server device monitors a state of the user on the basis of the information transmitted from said user terminal device.

12. (Amended) A control method of a virtual system which has plural user terminal devices and a host server device connected to said plural user terminal devices through a communication network and creates virtual spaces, said method comprising:

a virtual space providing step, of providing virtual spaces for users of said user terminal devices;

a view providing step, of providing a different view for each of the virtual spaces on a display device of said host server device;

a monitoring step, of monitoring the user while said user is in a certain virtual step; and

a control step of automatically changing the display of said certain virtual space to the display of another virtual space on the basis of the monitored result by said monitoring step, so that said user moves on the virtual spaces.

13. (Amended) A method according to Claim 12, further comprising an image step, of imaging the user, wherein said monitoring step monitors the state of the user on the basis of an image obtained in said image step.

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14. (Amended) A method according to Claim 13, wherein said monitoring step monitors a face direction of the user and said control step moves the user to another virtual space in a case where the user looks toward said user terminal device with a predetermined number of times or for a predetermined time.

15. (Amended) A method according to Claim 13, wherein monitoring step monitors motion of the user and said control step moves the user to another virtual space in a case where the motion of the user is in a predetermined condition for a period longer than a previously designated time.

16. (Amended) A method according to Claim 12, further comprising an image step, of imaging the user, wherein said image step includes a voice sound information obtaining step, of obtaining voice sound information, said monitoring step monitors emotion of the user on the basis of the voice sound information obtained in said voice sound information obtaining step and said control step moves the user to another virtual space in case of judging that the user is in a great stress condition in accordance with the recognition result obtained in said monitoring step.

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18. (Amended) A computer-readable storage medium for storing a program of a virtual system which has plural user terminal devices and a host server device connected to said plural user terminal devices through a communication network and creates virtual spaces, said program comprising: